

Proposal of Brazil, Argentina and Chile for Mediation in Mexican Conflict and Acceptance by United States

"MR. SECRETARY OF STATE:

"With the purpose of subserving the interests of peace and civilization and with the earnest desire to prevent any further bloodshed * * * we, the plenipotentiaries of Brazil, Argentina, and Chile * * * tender to your excellency's government our good offices for the peaceful and friendly settlement of the conflict between the United States and Mexico—D. DA GAMA, R. S. NAON, EDO. SUAREZ MUJICA."

SECRETARY BRYAN'S REPLY—"The government of the United States is deeply sensible of the friendliness * * * and * * * generous concern * * * manifested in the joint note just received from your excellencies, tendering the good offices of your governments to effect, if possible, a settlement of the present difficulties between the government of the United States and those who now claim to represent * * * Mexico. Conscious of the purpose with which this proffer is made, this government does not feel at liberty to decline it. Its own chief interest is in the peace of America, cordial intercourse of her republics and their people * * * The generous offer * * * is, therefore, accepted. This government feels bound in candor to say * * * it is not possible for it to make sure of an uninterrupted opportunity to carry out the plan of intermediation. * * * It is, of course, possible that some act of aggression on the part of those who control the military forces of Mexico might oblige the United States to act to the upsetting of hopes of immediate peace * * *"

WILLIAM J. BRYAN."

MASSACRE OF AMERICANS IN MEXICO CITY IMMINENT; 200 GET AWAY BY A RUSE

Claiming British Citizenship,
Refugees Evade Huerta's
Order that Americans Be
Held in Capital.

400 GERMANS ON TRAIN;
MEXICAN FORCES GATHER

BULLETIN.

Vera Cruz, April 25.—All Americans in Mexico City have been disarmed by order of Huerta.

Refugees from Mexico City say two Americans were killed by mobs in the streets before the train left.

The American Club has been set on fire three times, and the windows in every American-owned store in the city had been broken. The American grocery store had been burned and looted.

The capital is cut off from direct communication except by means of the wireless station of the German Embassy.

Baron and Baroness von Gatteringer, who arrived on the train, say that many Americans, including women with babies, have sought refuge in the prisons, where the mobs cannot reach them.

By JOSEPH P. ANNIN
Special Correspondent of The Washington Herald.

Vera Cruz, April 25.—After 200 Americans reached here this afternoon, having escaped from Mexico City by claiming British or German citizenship, Huerta announced in the capital that he would extend no further protection to Americans.

This means that the 600 Americans—men, women, and children—held in the capital by the dictator's order to his troops that no Americans be permitted to leave the city, are in imminent danger of being massacred. Two Americans were slashed with machetes today for refusing to salute the Mexican flag, and, according to the refugees arriving here, the capital was in a turmoil of riotous anti-American demonstrations.

Looting Permitted.
Huerta has permitted looting at Cordova, where more than a dozen American refugees, captured by federal troops, are in dire peril, if they have not been murdered already, which is the belief here.

Three American railroad men, names unknown, are reported to have been killed at Soledad station, on the Mexican National Railway. Reports from towns along the coast and in the interior tell of numerous outrages against Americans. Forty or more Americans have disappeared and are believed to be dead. The situation of Americans in this country hourly becomes more dangerous.

Everything is in readiness for a relief expedition to Mexico City. Admiral Fletcher is ready to send a column of 4,000 marines and bluejackets into the interior in a desperate effort to save the Americans in Mexico City. There will be no waiting for the arrival of the troops from Galveston, if the order comes from Washington to try to prevent a massacre of Americans in the capital. The fear is held, however, that the order may come too late.

The refugee train, which arrived here at 2 o'clock this afternoon, consisted of ten cars containing 600 men, women and children. Outside of the 200 Americans on the train, the majority were Germans, who had been directed to leave the capital by the German Ambassador, acting on instructions from Berlin.

Numbers who attempted to get on the train in Mexico City were turned away.

CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE.

Low Rates to Jacksonville, Fla., May 24-27, 1914.
Confederate Veterans' Reunion. Only \$17.55 round trip. Shipovers. Solid steel trains—free reclining chair cars. Atlantic Coast Line, the Standard railroad of the South.—Adv.

MEXICANS FOUND WITH ARMS WILL BE SHOT AT SIGHT

Fletcher Issues Drastic Order
to Stop "Sniping" at
Vera Cruz.

CHARGE HAS 'WAR' NOTE

O'Shaughnessy Sends State Department Copy of Letter Written by Huerta.

By N. A. JENNINGS.

Vera Cruz, April 25.—Admiral Fletcher has issued orders that any one found with weapons tonight shall be shot immediately. All arms in the city wherever found, except in the hands of American troops, are to be confiscated.

Admiral Fletcher has taken supreme command upon the recommendation of Admiral Badger.

Nelson O'Shaughnessy has in his possession a letter from Huerta, which is a virtual declaration of war upon the United States. The letter accompanied the passports which were handed to the charge d'affaires just before his departure from Mexico City.

Wired to Bryan.

This letter may yet play an important part, for it would serve as a basis upon which Congress could declare that a state of war exists between this country and Mexico.

The substance of the letter has been wired to the State Department. O'Shaughnessy came ashore today from the battleship Minnesota, where he spent the night as the guest of Admiral Fletcher. He was accompanied by Consul General Shanklin. They were closeted for a long time with Consul Canada. Mr. O'Shaughnessy does not yet know what he will do, as he has not yet received orders from Washington.

The two hydroplanes that have been brought here in the custody of Lieut. Muntin and Ellison flew over the city today in a preliminary reconnoitering trip.

Refuses to Give Up Arms.
Ambassador Von Helldorf, of Germany, at Mexico City, has refused point blank to comply with a demand made upon him by Huertista soldiers to surrender 20 rifles with which the embassy had been provided for its own protection. Von Helldorf informed Huerta positively that he would fight before he would surrender them.

It is reported that the German Ambassador has received personal instructions from the Kaiser to bring or send all German subjects immediately to Vera Cruz. The train carrying these German refugees is expected here tonight.

Zapata with Huerta.
Zapata, the rebel chieftain, is reported to be in Chapultepec. According to Paul Hudson, who arrived here today from the capital, Zapata is now completely reconciled with Huerta and has brought with him 2,000 men who are ready to fight the allies.

Reports have reached here of the looting of American homes and mines at Real Del Monte, near Mexico City. Americans are said to have been imprisoned in at least two towns, but the reports are unconfirmed.

SUFFRAGETTES BURN GRAIN.

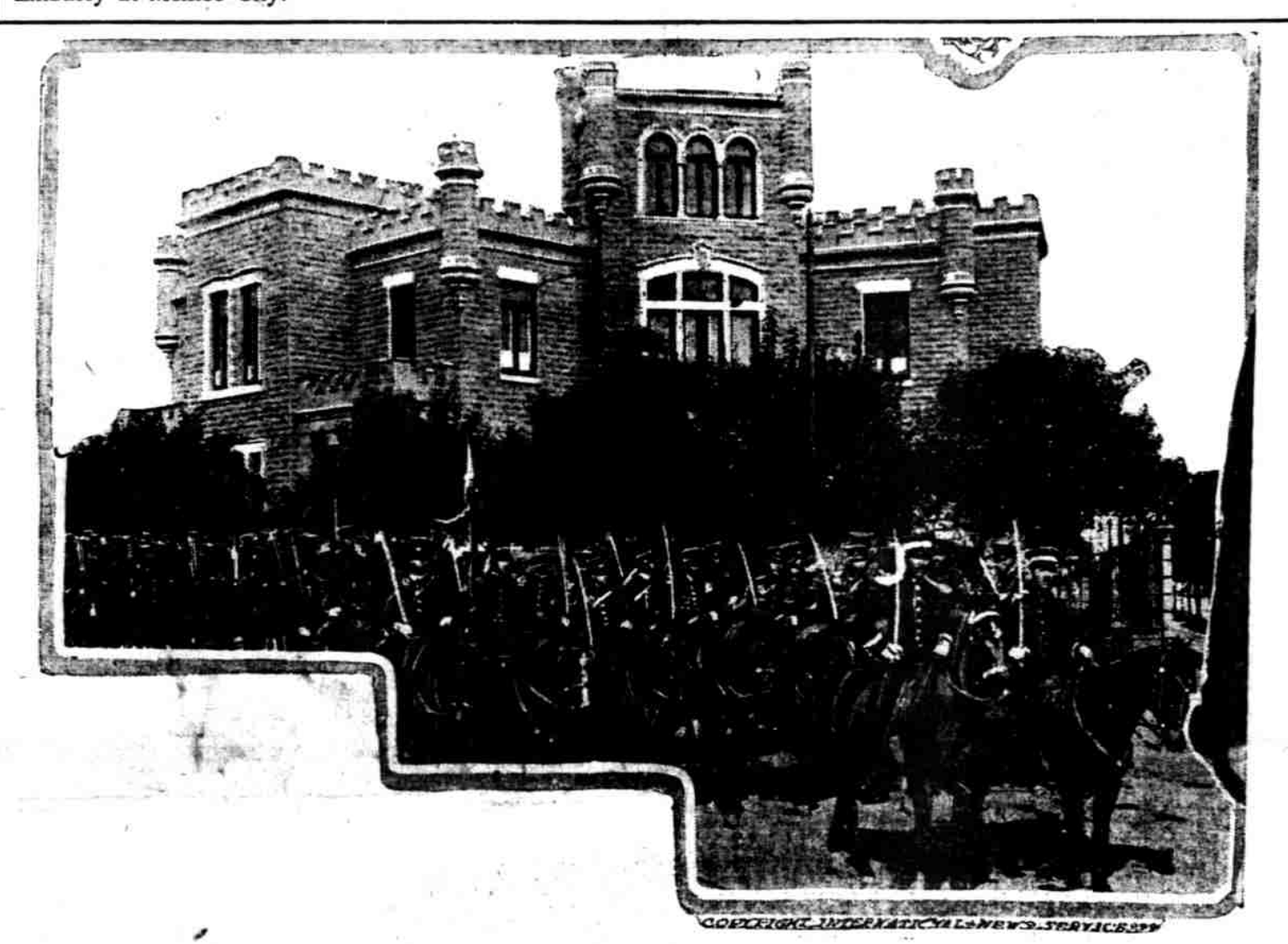
Special Cable to The Washington Herald.
Nacton, England, April 25.—Militant suffragettes today began a campaign aimed at the food supply of Great Britain. They burned several grain storehouses and numerous wheat stacks in the surrounding district.

AUSTRIAN EMPEROR BETTER.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.
Vienna, April 25.—Emperor Francis Joseph passed a good night and his physicians now hope for a complete recovery.

\$125 to Baltimore and Return
Baltimore to Ohio every Saturday and Sunday, valid for return until 9 a. m. train Monday.—Adv.

REFUGE OF AMERICANS IN MEXICO CITY AND A CRACK FEDERAL REGIMENT. This photograph shows a troop of Chapultepec Cavalry, the crack mounted force of the Mexican Federal Cavalry, passing by the American Embassy at Mexico City.



HUERTA CALLS IT FIRST ACT OF WAR

Characterizes U. S. Occupation of Vera Cruz "Deplorable Outrage."

IN NOTE WITH PASSPORTS

O'Shaughnessy Gives Out Text of Letter He Regards as Hostile Declaration.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Vera Cruz, April 25.—Following is the text of the letter handed to Charge O'Shaughnessy with his passports and which he considers equivalent to a declaration of war by Huerta:

"Ministry of Foreign Relations, Mexico, April 22, 1914.

"Mr. Charge d'Affaires: Assuredly your honor knows that the marines of the American ships of war anchored in the port of Vera Cruz, availing themselves of the circumstances that the Mexican authorities had given them access to the harbor and to the town because they considered their presence was of a friendly character, disembarked yesterday with their arms and in uniform and possessed themselves by surprise of the principal public buildings without giving time for the women and children in the streets, the sick, and other noncombatants to place themselves in safety.

Violation of Usages.
"This act is contrary to international usages, for if these do not demand as held by many states, a previous declaration of war, they impose at least the duty of not violating humane considerations or good faith by peoples whom the country in which they are has received as friends, who, therefore, should not take advantage of that circumstance to commit hostile acts.

"According to international law, these acts of the army of the United States, which I do not care to qualify in this note, out of deference to the fact that your honor personally has observed toward the Mexican government and people the most strictly correct conduct so far as has been possible to you in your character of representative of a government with which such serious difficulties as those existing have arisen, must be understood as the initiation of war against Mexico.

"Deplorable Outrage."

"This ministry reserves to itself the right of presenting to the other powers the events and the considerations pertaining to this matter, that they, as members of the concert of nations, may judge the conduct of the two nations and adopt the attitude which they may deem proper.

THE DAY'S DEVELOPMENTS

The President accepts an offer by Chile, Argentina, and Brazil to mediate with Mexico. Authorities on international law declare that arbitration with Huerta would be recognition of his government, and that the only point that can be arbitrated would be the insult to the flag. Huerta has not yet accepted mediation. War preparations go on.

Admiral Fletcher issues orders that every Mexican found carrying arms in Vera Cruz shall be shot.

Secretary Bryan announces the receipt of information that nineteen Americans, among them several women and children, and one British subject were captured near Vera Cruz and the Americans probably executed by Huerta's order. One hundred and twenty-five American women on the way from Mexico City to Vera Cruz taken from a refugee train by federalists at Irapuato. Every effort to learn their fate has failed.

Scores of Americans at interior points known to be in great danger of execution.

El Dictamen, a Vera Cruz newspaper, prints a dispatch from Mexico City telling of the killing of four Americans by a mob.

Secretary Daniels says an army officer will be in command at Vera Cruz when troops are landed, indicating that as a base of operations for attack on Mexico City. The officer will be Gen. Wood.

House passed the Hay joint resolution to meet needs in Mexico campaign.

State Department reiterates, through Consul Agent Carothers, to Carranza that United States government merely seeks reparation from Huerta and is not hostile to constitutionalists.

Citizens of Arizona, through Senator Ashurst, appeal to War Department for immediate dispatch of regulars to the Arizona border.

Capt. Douglas MacArthur, an engineer officer, has gone to Vera Cruz to direct engineering work for intended advance on Mexico City.

Senor Riano, Spanish Ambassador, announces he has taken charge of affairs of Mexican government in Washington.

Secretary Daniels orders Admiral Howard, on west coast, and Admiral Badger, on east coast of Mexico, to give asylum or passage on vessels to any American consul desiring to leave Mexico.

Secretary Garrison says United States troops ordered to Vera Cruz "are going for duty," when asked the purpose of military operations.

BULLETINS UP TO PRESS TIME

Mexicans Stone American Consul.

A message received at the Navy Department from Mazatlan, one of the most important ports on the Pacific coast of Mexico, recited that a mob of infuriated Mexicans stoned William E. Alger, the American consul there, Friday.

portunity to reiterate to your honor the assurance of my highest consideration.

"Signed."

"JOSE LOPEZ FORTILLO Y ROJAS."

U. S. OFFERED 500 BURROS.

Representative Murray, of Oklahoma, yesterday notified Secretary of War Garrison that Joseph C. Miller, of Bliss, Okla., offered the government for use 500 Mexican burros, now at Marfa, Tex. The burros are part of a pack brought over by Gen. Merced's refugees army, now detained at Fort Bliss, Tex. Mr. Miller has offered also an equipped regiment of Oklahoma cowboys. The offer has the approval of Gov. Lee Crane, of Oklahoma.

PEARY GETS FRENCH MEDAL.

Paris, April 25.—Ambassador Herrick today sent to Rear Admiral Robert E. Peary the gold medal awarded to him by the French Geographical Society for the discovery of the north pole. The society's action is official acceptance of Peary's claims.

LAWYERS CHEER MEDIATION PLAN

Secretary Bryan's Reply to A. B. C. Powers Stormily Applauded.

"HAPPY AUGURY"—ROOT

Rousing Toast to President Follows Spirited and Patriotic Address by Solon.

Secretary Bryan's reply to the note from the Brazilian, Argentine, and Chilean representatives offering their services to bring about mediation of the existing difficulties between the Huerta government and the United States read at the banquet of the American Society of International Law held at the Willard last night, brought forth prolonged applause.

Senator Root, of New York, although strongly opposed to Bryan politically, characterized the most recent development in the Mexican situation as a "happy augury." He expressed sincere hope of a solution through the mediation of the joint note from the South American diplomatists and the reply made by Bryan.

Mr. Bryan said: "I am sure that the approval which your hearty applause manifests will not be confined to the 1,600 members of this society. I am sure that in what the President has done he has spoken for the best judgment of the people of the United States, and I am gratified over the prospect, whether it be realized or not, of some adjustment of these differences which will give our sister republic a new lease of life, and to her people the hope of progress and prosperity which will make us as happy as it will make the people of Mexico."

Defines Word "Lawyer."
"I think the word international should be an enlargement and not a limitation of the word lawyer. The position of the lawyer is a rising position. I have not always found, as I have gone among the people, the respect for the law I was taught to have for it. My father was a lawyer, and I was trained for the law, with no thought of departing from it until accident took me into politics and design kept me there."

"I was taught to believe that the law was a very distinguished profession and a very high occupation, but when I talked among the people I had to leave out of my lectures a complimentary reference to the law."

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO.

OFFER TO MEDIATE BY ARGENTINA, BRAZIL AND CHILE ACCEPTED BY U. S.

Envoys of Three Nations Here, in Note to Secretary Bryan, Tender Governments' "Good Offices for Peaceful and Friendly Settlement of the Conflict"—Proposal Will Be Submitted to Huerta—High Officials Believe Chaotic Conditions in Mexico Will Cause Failure of Plan.

PRESIDENT, IN AGREEING, BELIEVED TO HAVE IMPOSED NEW CONDITIONS ON DICTATOR

The United States government has consented to mediate its differences with Mexico, and steps already have been taken to obtain Huerta's consent to such a settlement of the crisis.

This unexpected turn of affairs came yesterday evening as a result of an offer by Brazil, Chile, and the Argentine Republic, through their envoys here, to use their good offices to bring about mediation. This government immediately accepted, in the hope that the proposals to be advanced by the South American republics may prove "feasible and prophetic of a new day of mutual co-operation and confidence in America."

While accepting, President Wilson immediately imposed conditions of his own. One of these was that no solution of the crisis will be acceptable to the United States which does not provide for the elimination of Huerta and the restoration of constitutional government in Mexico.

BADGER REPORTS ON VERA CRUZ SITUATION

Wires Navy Department U. S. Probably Will Have to Put Natives on Rations.

OUTPOSTS EXTENDED 2 MILES

The following telegram has been received by the Navy Department from Admiral Badger, filed at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon:

"Last night's firing desultory and continued for considerable period. One private slightly wounded in forearm. Name not yet ascertained. Will be reported later. Fletcher continuing efforts to have influential citizens unite and arrange for conduct of municipal affairs by people themselves. Quite certain that former officials will not resume office under present conditions, but possibly citizens' committee can be formed to influence city's affairs along lines of law and order and create confidence among inhabitants. Meeting of this kind will be held this afternoon.

"Question of food and water still giving anxiety, but up to present time no actual distress. Seems probable, however, that ultimately government will have to ration poorer classes of inhabitants. Custom-house is open and vessels ready to discharge, but much difficulty being experienced obtaining labor.

"Extending lines bluejackets and marines about two miles further out into country today. South Carolina battalion well entrenched about two and one-half miles from center city. No contact has been made with Mexican forces and no attack expected at present. Mississippi's marines landed this morning. This morning aeroplane made flight over harbor. Will make another flight this afternoon. Ships' bands giving concerts ashore.

"Hawaiian-American steamer reported sailed from Puerto Mexico 10 a. m. Saturday for Vera Cruz with about 200 refugees. Will transfer them to steamer Mexico and as soon as reasonably filled that vessel will proceed New Orleans and refugees and return.

"Jason and Pauling now at Tuxpan collecting refugees that region. Rear Admiral Craddock and commanding officers British ships Hermione, at Tampico, and Berwick, at Puerto Mexico, have been untiring in efforts to collect and forward American refugees ships. These services have been of greatest value. Further efforts continuation these kindly efforts still being made."

ULSTERMEN GET 7,000 RIFLES.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.
Belfast, Ireland, April 25.—A consignment of 7,000 rifles and 300,000 rounds of ammunition was landed secretly on the Irish coast early today by the steamer Fanny. The war munitions now are being distributed to various headquarters of the Ulster volunteers.

Must Be No Recognition.
President Wilson, before he would consent to mediation, stipulated also that the proceeding should in no wise involve the recognition of Huerta.

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO.